

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 DODE-00 SS-15 L-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 IGA-02 MC-02 OMB-01

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DRAFTED BY DOD/ISA:ABPRADOS/NEA/ARN:DMRANSOM:JMP

7/25/73 EXT 21018

APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTON

DOD/DSAA - MR. GRAND PRE

DOD/ISA/SA - MR. EVANS

DOD/OJCS/JS - CAPT. CONNELLEY

NEA/ARN - MR. DJEREJIAN

NEA/ARP - MR. BUCK

PM/MAS - MR. FARNHAM

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P 260047Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY SANAA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 146705

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, JO

SUBJ: SALADINS FOR YEMEN

REF: AMMAN 3523

KUWAIT PASS ABU DHABI

1. DEPARTMENT AND DEFENSE ARE MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO BE FORTHCOMING IN PROVIDING BACK-UP FOR SOUND, WELL-DEFINED JORDANIAN EFFORT TO PLAY ROLE IN GULF AND YEMEN. ONE INDICATION OF THIS IS SEPTEL DISCUSSION OF REPLACEMENTS OF AMMO GIFTS WHICH GOJ MAKING TO YEMEN.

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2. IN CASE OF REPLACEMENT FOR SALADINS, HOWEVER, WE HAVE PROBLEMS. UNFORTUNATELY WE HAVE NOT YET REACHED A CONCLUSION ON THE FEASIBILITY OF PROVIDING A LIKE QUANTITY OF TANKS AS REQUESTED BY GENERAL BEN SHAKER. PRICE AND AVAILABILITY ARE MAJOR OBSTACLES TO MEETING JORDANIAN REQUEST. WE HOPE TO HAVE AN ANSWER WITHIN APPROXIMATELY 10 DAYS. IN MEANTIME, WOULD HELP TO KNOW IF GOJ PLANS TO PROVIDE ANY SUPPORT FOR MAINTENANCE OF SALADINS IN YEMEN BEYOND OFFER OF SPARES AND TRAINING IN JORDANIAN SCHOOLS.

3. WE REGRET DELAY IN RESPONSE, AND AS WE BELIEVE THAT JORDAN'S PROPOSED ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN IS SUFFICIENTLY IMPORTANT AND ABU DHABI'S FINANCING OFFER SUFFICIENTLY LUCRATIVE, WE REQUEST YOU INQUIRE IF GOJ MIGHT NOT WISH SELL ITS 40 SALADIN ARMORED CARS TO YEMEN WITHOUT A U.S. COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE REPLACEMENT HARDWARE.

4. FYI. WE ARE STILL TRYING TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF AVAILABILITY OF M48 SERIES TANKS AND TO DETERMINE THE ADVISABILITY OF SUPPLYING TANKS TO REPLACE ARMORED CARS. DIVERSION OF M48A3'S WOULD IMPACT ON THE READINESS POSTURE OF OUR RESERVE UNITS, SO WE ARE CHECKING FURTHER OPTIONS INVOLVING M48A1'S. WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED THAT PROVISION OF 40 TANKS (OVER ONE BATTALION BY JORDANIAN EQUIVALENT) WOULD CONTRIBUTE TOWARD FURTHER EXPANSION OF THE JORDANIAN ARMED FORCES. WILL ADVISE SOONEST.
END FYI. ROGERS

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NNN

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